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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/743,877	12/24/2003	Jac-Yong Park	053785-5138	9339

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EXAMINER

QUARTERMAN, KEVIN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/743,877

Applicant(s)

PARK ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin Quarterman

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 December 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1206.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 26 December 2006 has been entered.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 26 December 2006 was filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance on 26 September 2006. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the switching thin film transistors must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

4. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended

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replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 3-4, 1-13, and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seki (EP 1,209,744).

7. Regarding independent claim 1, Figure 7D of Seki shows an organic electroluminescent device comprising first and second substrates (25, 39) facing and spaced apart from each other, the first and second substrates having a display region

and a peripheral region, the display region including a plurality of pixel regions (A) and a dummy pixel region (B); driving thin film transistors (26) respectively adjacent to each of the plurality of pixel regions on the inner surface of the first substrate; first connection electrodes (not labeled) respectively connected to the driving thin film transistors; a first electrode (38) on an entire surface of the second substrate; a sidewall (29) on the first electrode at a boundary of each of the plurality of pixel regions and the dummy pixel region; an organic electroluminescent layer (35) on the first electrode; second electrodes (27) on the organic electroluminescent layer so that a second electrode is present in each of the plurality of pixel regions and the dummy pixel region, respectively, the second electrodes in each of the plurality of pixel regions are respectively connected to the first connection electrodes; and a sealant attaching the first and second substrates.

8. Regarding claim 3, Figure 7D of Seki shows the second electrode in the dummy pixel region electrically floating.
9. Regarding claim 4, the Examiner notes that thin film transistors inherently include an active layer, a gate electrode, and source and drain electrodes.
10. Regarding claim 11, Seki discloses the first electrode being an anode and the second electrodes being cathodes (col. 14, ln. 4-16).
11. Regarding claim 12, Seki discloses the first electrode including one of indium tin oxide and indium zinc oxide (col. 13, ln. 16).
12. Regarding claim 13, Seki discloses the second electrode including one of calcium, aluminum, and magnesium (col. 10, ln. 5-6).

13. Regarding claim 15, Figure 10A of Seki shows the dummy pixel region surrounding the plurality of pixel regions.
14. Regarding claim 16, Figure 7D of Seki shows an auxiliary insulating layer (28) between the first electrode and at least one of the sidewalls.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

15. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

16. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
17. Claims 2, 5-10, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seki (EP 1,209,744) in view of Konuma (EP 1,096,303).
18. Regarding claim 2, Seki teaches the limitations of independent claim 1 discussed earlier but fails to exemplify a pad in the peripheral region on an inner surface of the first

substrate and a second connection electrode connected to the pad, wherein the first electrode is connected to the second connection electrode.

19. In Figure 8B, Konuma teaches that it is known in the art to provide electroluminescent devices with a pad (804) in the peripheral region on an inner surface of a first substrate and a connection electrode (not labeled) connected to the pad, wherein the first electrode (353) is connected to the connection electrode. Konuma discloses that this arrangement is provided for connecting a printed circuit or shielding an electric field.

20. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the organic electroluminescent device of Seki with a pad in the peripheral region on an inner surface of the first substrate and a second connection electrode connected to the pad, as taught by Konuma, for connecting the first electrode to a circuit.

21. Regarding claim 5, the Examiner notes that thin film transistors inherently include an active layer, a gate electrode, and source and drain electrodes.

22. Regarding claim 6, Konuma discloses switching thin film transistors connected to the driving thin film transistors, wherein each of the switching thin film transistors includes a switching active layer, a switching gate electrode, and switching source and switching drain electrodes (abstract).

23. Regarding claim 7, Konuma discloses the driving active layer and the switching active layer including a polycrystalline silicon (col. 10, ln. 19-22).

24. Regarding claim 8, Figure 9 of Konuma shows the switching source electrode connected to a data line, wherein the switching drain electrode is connected to the driving gate electrode, wherein the switching gate electrode is connected to the gate line.
25. Regarding claim 9, Figure 9 of Konuma shows a power line connected to the driving transistors.
26. Regarding claim 10, Figure 9 of Konuma shows storage capacitors connected to the driving transistors.
27. Regarding claim 14, Figure 8B of Konuma shows an auxiliary electrode (not labeled) between the first electrode and the connection electrode.

Allowable Subject Matter

28. The indicated allowability of claims 1-16 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered references to Seki and Konuma, which were cited in applicant's IDS received 26 December 2006.

Contact Information

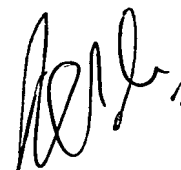
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Quarterman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2461. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (7-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kevin Quarterman
Examiner
Art Unit 2879

kq 
5 January 2007


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